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# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re application of: | Examiner: M. Shibuya |
| Loeb *et al.* | Art Unit: 1635 |
| Application No.: 09/522,373 | AMENDMENT |
| Filed: March 10, 2000 | |
| For: INDUCTION OF VIRAL MUTATION BY INCORPORATION OF MISCODING RIBONUCLEOSIDE ANALOGS INTO VIRAL RNA | |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 1, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks and amendments. A petition to extend the time for response for three months, from November 1, 2001 to February 1, 2002, is submitted herewith. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification on page 13, line 26 to page 14, line 6 as follows:

A preferred example of algorithm that is suitable for determining percent sequence identity and sequence similarity are the BLAST and BLAST 2.0 algorithms, which are described in Altschul *et al., Nuc. Acids Res.* 25:3389-3402 (1977) and Altschul *et al., J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-410 (1990), respectively. BLAST and BLAST 2.0 are used, with the default parameters described